



The Asian Classics Institute



Diamond Mountain University

In-Depth Course 1
Teachings of the Future Buddha:
The Uttara Tantra of Maitreya

Homework, Class Ten: The Twelve Deeds of the Buddha

1) Name the twelve deeds of the Buddha.

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

(6)

(7)

(8)

(9)

(10)

(11)

(12)

2) What moves, from where, but not from where, and for what reason, when the Buddha undertakes these twelve deeds? (Tibetan and Sanskrit tracks answer in those languages.)

(continued)

3) Why does Lord Buddha come to our particular realm?

4) According to some ways of counting the twelve deeds, the Buddha undertakes another deed before the traditional first, which is then combined with the second. Name this new first deed.

5) Give and explain the two well-known names that Lord Buddha received upon his birth.

6) Compare how those of the lower way, the greater way, and the secret way describe the level the Buddha was on as he went through the twelve deeds.

7) There are two positions as to the deed the Buddha was performing when he attained “automatic ordination” as a full monk. State them.

(continued)

8) Why, according to the Detailist School, was Lord Buddha forced to endure six years of spiritual hardship as the seventh deed?

9) Name the four demons that are defeated as the ninth deed, and describe a position of Je Tsongkapa on when they are actually stopped.

10) Are all the twelve deeds of Shakyamuni Buddha performed by Shakyamuni Buddha?

11) Speculate a bit on how each of the twelve deeds may represent a message from Lord Buddha to us on how to conduct each stage of our own life, over the course of our life.

(continued)

12) When Lord Buddha came out of his holy mother's womb, he took seven steps in each of the six directions of space. Lotuses appeared below his feet with each step, and he made a high proclamation in each direction. Give the famous line that He spoke as he stepped to the west. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

Debate assignment: Remember to review this class at least once before the review class, by sitting down with a friend over a cup of coffee or tea and simply discussing what was said.

Meditation assignment: Sit down for 15 minutes a day, and do a review meditation on the series of twelve deeds, and how each one is a message to us.